

"Still  
The Second  
Best Thing  
About Payday"

# The NIH Record

## *Same Game, Higher Stakes*

### **Campus Again Addresses Fraudulent Charity Mail**

By Carla Garnett

Four years ago, nearly to the date, the *NIH Record* carried a story about mail received on campus from Nigeria. Addressed mainly to scientists, the letters were pleas for financial assistance written supposedly by college-age Nigerians seeking to finish their studies in biomedical research. The young people were in desperate straits, the letters said, due to any of several family illnesses or misfortunes. Handwritten in touching, first-person detail and on university letterhead, the mail tugged on the heartstrings, leading recipients to try to find ways of supplying the desired monetary help—\$200 or \$300 or so in U.S. funds. There was one problem, though: Following several attempts through various channels—including the Nigerian Embassy in Washington, D.C.—neither the authors nor the schools could ever be verified. A few things were confirmed: First, the letters were addressed too specifically and written too similarly to be random contacts. Obviously, someone or some group had access to a NIH phone directory or mailing list. Also, the British journal *The Lancet* carried an item describing similar letters from Nigeria delivered to researchers in England. Officials there couldn't verify the details either. It became apparent that the letters were part of an organized fundraising campaign, and that the campaign was probably a scam.

Turn the calendar now to 1995. Letters from Nigeria begin to crop up again on the NIH campus. These are a little different: they are typewritten and addressed to "Dear Sir" or "Madam" instead of the recipient's name. Also, they are more like form letters than before. Marked "strictly confidential," one note postmarked from Lagos, Nigeria, on Oct. 30, 1995, reads, "I have been mandated to write you after necessary information and due recommendation from a business consultant in Nigeria. Based

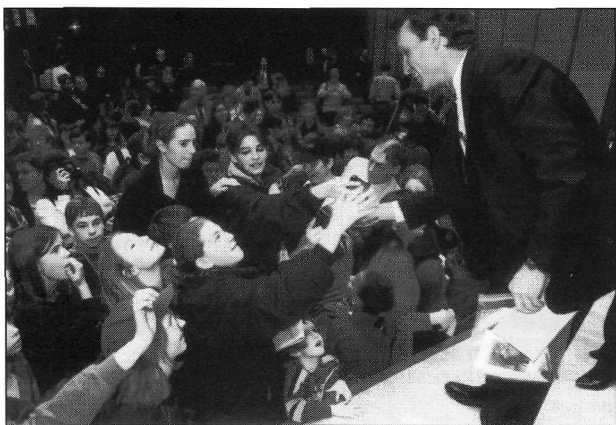
(See **LETTERS FROM NIGERIA**, Page 6)

## *Bill! Bill! Bill! Bill!*

### **Science Guy Nye Draws Natcher Crowd**

Behind his beaker and microscope, Bill Nye the Science Guy is no nerd. Beneath the lab coat and bow tie, he is "way cool." And his enormous popularity preceded him on Mar. 26 as an overflowing Natcher Auditorium of at least 1,200 of his fans, from preschoolers to seniors, came to see the scientist/comedian/teacher/and all-around zany guy in action.

Sponsored by the Office of Science Education, the 1-hour program was the Family Science Night feature of OSE's annual lecture series, which is free to the NIH community and the public. In selecting Bill Nye—host of an eponymous PBS television show about science for kids—for the slot, Irene Eckstrand, acting director of OSE, said, "The choice was easy. When thinking of someone who



*The sort of accord usually reserved for rock stars greets Bill Nye the Science Guy, who reacts to an overflowing Natcher Auditorium of 1,200 fans.*

firmly believes in science and its importance in our childrens' lives, as well as someone our kids think is great, Bill Nye was the perfect choice. He is America's favorite 'stand-up' scientist."

During his lecture, Nye paused to perform a gesture all mothers appreciated: He

(See **BILL NYE**, Page 4)

## *New 'Nirvana'*

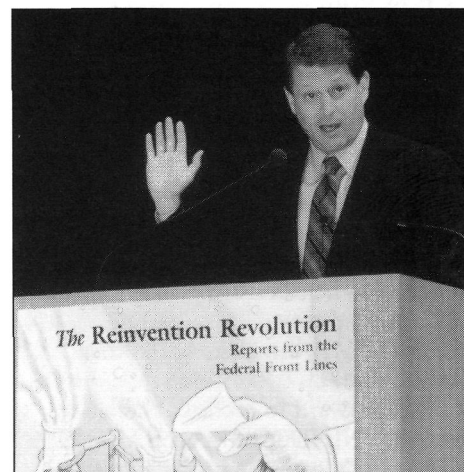
### **Psychiatrist Steven Hyman To Head NIMH**

By Carla Garnett

Two years ago when the directorship at the National Institute of Mental Health became vacant, Dr. Steven E. Hyman, associate professor of psychiatry and neuroscience at Harvard University and director of psychiatry research at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), was collaborating with colleagues to establish Harvard's interfaculty initiative on mind/brain/behavior. Leaving the Boston area was the farthest thing from his mind.

"I knew that there had been more than one search to fill the position," he recalled, "and I was just hoping that they'd recruit somebody good. I never thought it might be me. Then, it was suggested to me by [NINDS director] Zach Hall that I should apply. As I learned more about the opportunities and challenges presented by the position, I became fascinated. I was convinced to accept it both by the needs of NIMH and by [NIH director] Harold Varmus, who showed an impressive seriousness of purpose and straightforwardness about the job. I had mentioned to Harold that

(See **HYMAN**, Page 2)



*Vice President Al Gore visited NIH on Mar. 25. He was the keynote speaker at "The Reinvention Revolution: Reports from the Federal Front Lines," a 3-day meeting held Mar. 25-27 in the Natcher Bldg. The meeting gathered representatives from the more than 240 federal reinvention laboratories for a midstream evaluation of the reinventing government initiative.*

## HYMAN (Continued from Page 1)

I was perfectly happy in my current position and he semi-jokingly quoted a line to me that said, 'Nirvana gets boring.' I also knew that he had assembled a cadre of outstanding people at NIH. The position offered real and tractable opportunity."

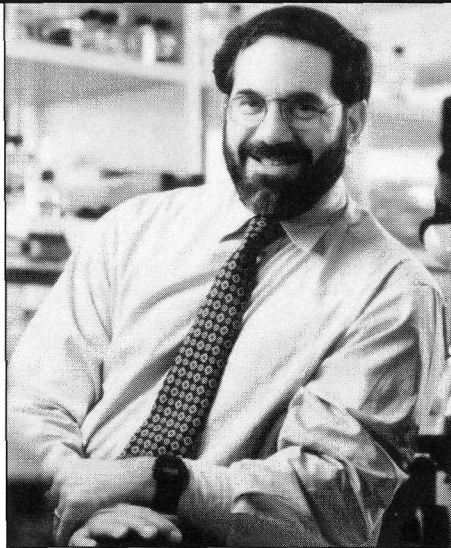
On Mar. 15, Varmus announced the appointment of Hyman as NIMH director. Hyman officially took the reins of the institute on Apr. 15. As NIMH director, he will oversee more than 850 scientists, administrators, and support staff and an annual budget of more than \$600 million. A 10-year NIH grantee whose research has been funded by NIDDK, NIMH, NIDA and NINDS, he will—in the tradition of Varmus appointees—move a portion of his laboratory at Mass General to facilities at NIH's Bldg. 36 in the coming months.

"I expect that in doing the director's job and also maintaining a lab, I'll run up against the limited number of hours in the day and the unfortunate need for sleep," Hyman quipped during an Apr. 1 interview that had been squeezed in between an inter-ICD top-level science meeting in Bldg. 36 and a speaking engagement in Lipsett Amphitheater. He had caught the 6 a.m. air shuttle from Boston for another in a series of 1-day previews of NIH that helped acquaint him with the campus and staff. "However," he continued, "being able to continue my career as a scientist was a very attractive reason for taking this position. It was very important to me."

Trained as a psychiatrist and a molecular biologist, Hyman has focused his recent research on how drugs—especially cocaine and amphetamines—and other agents alter signal pathways in the brain, and therefore affect brain function. Hyman said he foresees the work in his lab opening the way for several new projects NIMH can share with other NIH institutes.

"I look forward to increased collaborations with NINDS, NIDA, NIAAA, NIA and NICHD, to name just a few of the institutes where I'm sure potentially synergistic work is being conducted," he said. It was his enthusiasm for collaboration that led to the considerable returns of the mind/brain/behavior initiative he developed in 1994.

"It's been remarkably successful not only in introducing faculty to each other and each other's work, but also in



Dr. Steven Hyman

initiating new undergraduate curricula," Hyman said. "For example, I think it's very important and tremendously valuable for psychology undergraduate students to get experience in neuroscience. The initiative has helped accomplish that."

Among the first orders of business in Hyman's new post will be to receive the report of a blue-ribbon panel assembled by Varmus late last fall to review the overall structure of NIMH's intramural research program.

"We have some outstanding scientists and remarkable opportunity here at NIMH," Hyman noted. "I'll be using the review to think about structural changes we can make to capitalize on the scientific opportunity before us. On the extramural side, we're beginning to rethink the peer review process that will continue to keep our portfolio on the cutting edge. Although I'm a psychiatrist, I've really concentrated on the neurobiology world up to this point and I only know a few of the scientists on the IRP review panel. I think that will allow me to bring a certain amount of freshness to my relationship with the panel and with the psychiatric community that can only be constructive."

A *summa cum laude* graduate of Yale in 1974, of the University of Cambridge, England, in 1976 and a *cum laude* graduate of Harvard Medical School in 1980, Hyman completed his internship in medicine at Mass General in 1981 and his residency in psychiatry at McLean Hospital in Belmont, Mass., in 1984. His other postdoctoral training included a clinical and research fellowship in endocrinology and neurology, and a

research fellowship in molecular biology in the laboratory of Dr. Howard M. Goodman at MGH.

One of the two roles Hyman said he will miss most is supervisor to MGH psychiatric residents, a job he has relished since 1984. Along similar lines, he mentioned the other duty that will be tough for him to forfeit—his clinical psychiatry work in MGH's emergency room.

"That involved mainly work with individuals struggling with one addiction or the other," he explained, gathering his slides en route to deliver a talk at NINDS's 1996 neuroscience lecture series. "It was exciting, compelling and challenging work with patients that I probably won't be able to continue in this position. I'm sure I won't be able to fit much of that type of clinical work in down here. I'll be spending the next 3 months trying to learn about the intramural and extramural programs and trying to meet personnel. I'll be expected to be up to speed, making decisions fairly quickly, and that will require a lot of preparation."

"One thing I have been struck by is the relatively hierarchical nature of government," he concluded. "There seem to be a lot more layers in reporting than there are in academia. I'm truly interested in flattening the hierarchy. I want to know about the work of colleagues who may be several layers down on the organizational chart, but who are doing some outstanding projects." □

## The NIH Record

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## Scientists Brief Media on AIDS Prevention Research

By John Bowersox

A new blueprint for developing AIDS vaccines as well as some of the latest advances and issues in all facets of NIAID AIDS prevention research were featured in a series of science writers briefings held recently at Natcher Conference Center.

About 20 different candidate vaccines have been tested in humans in early stage clinical trials. These include subunit vaccines, made from a piece of the outer surface of HIV; recombinant vector vaccines, in which a live bacterium or virus has been genetically engineered to carry a gene that makes one or more HIV proteins; and combinations of subunit and recombinant vaccines. All candidate vaccines tested thus far appear to be free of serious harmful side effects. However, none has advanced to phase III efficacy trials, the large-scale studies that determine whether a vaccine can actually prevent infection. Nevertheless, researchers see favorable prospects for developing an AIDS vaccine.

"We are optimistic that a useful HIV vaccine can be developed," said NIAID director Dr. Anthony S. Fauci as he discussed his institute's new HIV/AIDS vaccine strategy. He explained that the NIAID plan stresses greater cooperation between government scientists and the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries as a means of overcoming the scientific challenges, social and ethical considerations, and market forces that have hindered progress toward an AIDS vaccine.

"NIAID believes that developing strong private-public sector partnerships and a vigorous level of industrial activity are pivotal to progress in this field," said Fauci. As an example, he cited NIAID's joint development partnership with drug companies Pasteur-Merieux-Connaught and Biocine, through which NIAID is investigating a new "prime-plus-boost" AIDS vaccine. This approach involves priming an individual's immune system with a canarypox virus that has been genetically engineered to express certain HIV proteins. Later, a booster of the same vaccine is given in combination with other recombinant HIV proteins. Early studies suggest that this approach stimulates both arms of the immune system—white blood cells and antibodies; previous candidate vaccines had stimulated primarily one or the other. Scientists now believe that both kinds of

immune responses may be necessary for an AIDS vaccine to be effective.

Dr. Nancy Haigwood, a senior scientist at the Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute in Seattle, reviewed recent investigations with experimental AIDS drugs that have shown a clear association between reductions in viral load and increased survival time. These findings, she said, have important implications for AIDS vaccine development because they suggest that complete protection from HIV infection need not be the only criteria for assessing a vaccine's effectiveness. Rather, a vaccine that helps the immune system hold virus production in check might allow vaccinated individuals who subsequently become infected with HIV to stay healthy for long periods of time. Such a vaccine could have a major impact on the epidemic.

All the investigators at the briefings agreed that the greatest gains against HIV infection will come from incorporating vaccine use with other prevention approaches under study by NIAID researchers. For example, NIAID-supported scientists are investigating ways to help women protect themselves from HIV infection. Prevention strategies controlled by women, researchers believe, could have a significant impact on the worldwide AIDS epidemic. Unlike in the U.S., the majority of HIV infections in the developing world occur through heterosexual contact. Women often are unable to limit their exposure to HIV because of the unwillingness of their sex partners to use condoms.

"HIV is not an equal-opportunity STD (sexually transmitted disease) in that women are much more likely to be infected with HIV by men than are men by women," said Dr. Sharon Hillier, an NIAID grantee at the University of Pittsburgh's Magee-Women's Hospital. She added that women also are more likely to acquire other STDs such as gonorrhea and chlamydia that help promote the transmission of HIV.

Research by Hillier and her colleagues shows that a healthy vaginal ecosystem is an important factor in reducing women's risk of infection with HIV and other STDs. She said that certain species of lactobacilli, a type of bacteria that occurs naturally in the vagina, appear to be particularly helpful in protecting women from STDs. Lactobacilli, she explained,

produce hydrogen peroxide and other microbicidal (microbe-killing) compounds. A lactobacillus vaginal suppository has been developed that enables the bacteria to grow in the vagina, said Hillier. Research is under way to determine whether use of these suppositories can reduce women's risk of STD infection.

NIAID-funded researchers also are investigating other microbicidal approaches for HIV risk reduction. Dr. Zeda Rosenberg, a senior scientist in NIAID's Division of AIDS, said two NIAID-supported clinical efficacy studies of nonoxynol-9, a potential topical microbicide applied intravaginally prior to sex, are under way at sites in Africa. NIAID also will be sponsoring a phase I safety study of another microbicidal product, known as a buffer gel, that works by maintaining a vaginal pH that is hostile to HIV. The buffer gel will be tested in women in the U.S., Thailand, Malawi, Zimbabwe and India beginning this summer, said Rosenberg.

Reducing HIV infection in women also will help reduce the prevalence of HIV infection among children. NIAID's Dr. Mary Glenn Fowler said that NIAID supports studies in developing countries of simple and low-cost strategies for preventing mother-to-infant (perinatal) HIV transmission. For example, investigators in Uganda are assessing whether a single dose of nevirapine, given to a mother in labor when she arrives at the hospital, can reduce the risk of HIV infection in newborns. One dose of this drug has been shown to dramatically reduce the amount of HIV in the blood.

Fowler, of the Vaccine and Prevention Research Program, explained that NIAID-supported researchers also will examine whether HIV antibodies can prevent perinatal HIV transmission. In a trial scheduled to begin this spring, HIV immunoglobulin (HIVIG), an immune substance rich in HIV antibodies, will be administered to HIV-infected pregnant women in Uganda. In a separate trial, planned for later this year, HIVIG will be given to infants born to HIV-infected women in Haiti. This strategy, known as passive immunization, could yield valuable information about the role that antibodies play in protection from HIV infection, said Fowler. □



## BILL NYE

(Continued from Page 1)

introduced his own mother, who was in the audience, and asked her to stand and be recognized. The host of the four-time Daytime Emmy-nominated show, decked out in a dark suit and a turquoise bow tie, explained the show's production process, and how its music videos, flashy graphics, special effects, and wacky experiments are all used to pique the interest of young minds and turn them on to science. "Use your brain; use science, and your life will be cool," he concluded.

Nye's visit to NIH included tours with Dr. Ronald D. Neumann, chief of the Clinical Center's nuclear medicine department; Dr. Robert Balaban, chief, Laboratory of Cardiac Energetics, NHLBI; and Gil Brown, new executive director of the Children's Inn at NIH. A press conference and reception at Natcher followed the show.

Premiering concurrently on both commercial and PBS stations 3 years ago,



Dr. Robert Balaban (r), chief, Laboratory of Cardiac Energetics, NHLBI, discusses his work on heart imagery with Nye.

*Bill Nye the Science Guy* is a partnership among Disney's Buena Vista Television, PBS, the National Science Foundation, and Boeing International. The show targets fourth graders; however, half of the audience is adults. In addition to Emmy nominations, the program has earned two Parent's Choice Awards (1993 and 1994), an Environmental Media Award, and a National Education Association award.

Nye, who was born in Washington, D.C., plans to bring his beakers and test tubes to NIH on a future visit and conduct some experiments. As his motto states, "One test is worth a thousand expert opinions."—Michele R. Bupp □

## Parenting Seminar Focuses on Feelings

Guilt, resentment, frustration, and depression were just a few of the feelings described by single parents who met recently at a seminar sponsored by NICHD's equal employment opportunity advisory committee.

"Dealing with feelings is not something you just do once or twice or a few times or do in the first year," said Linda Jessup, who led the seminar called "Single Parenting—What You Need to Know." "[It] is an ongoing process, and it really is something that needs to be tended to. When it is not, you tend to develop symptoms." Jessup is executive director of the Parent Encouragement Program, a nonprofit educational organization offering training and support for parents and families.

These symptoms may include behavioral and emotional difficulties such as anxiety, fears, shyness, sleeping and eating disorders, anger, guilt, and sadness.

With boys, repressed emotions can manifest themselves in hyperactivity and aggressive behavior, while young girls are less likely to show outward signs of a problem. As girls get older and begin dating, however, these early ignored emotions may cause difficulties in their relationships, Jessup said.

After being part of a two-parent couple, becoming a single parent—whether through divorce or widowhood—presents a number of sometimes difficult emotional issues. Working through the

feelings that these conditions arouse is a long-term undertaking for both children and adults. Healing can take as long as 2 to 7 years, said Jessup, who advises single parents to enroll their children in support groups, which are sometimes offered by schools.

In helping children adjust to the change from a household with a mother and a father to a household with a mother or a father, single parents need to create stability by focusing on the needs of the new family, not the individual, Jessup explained. "You find, paradoxically, that people's needs tend to be met when the family is the focus," she added.

In addition to dealing with feelings, measures that accomplish this include increasing organization and predictability, perhaps through a weekly family meeting; decreasing chaos and simplifying life—cutting down on the number of outside activities, for example (one per child is enough, according to Jessup); building new structures and supports—for example, by making new friends and establishing rituals (i.e., special times set aside for each child); and developing the family's spiritual life.

With these stable structures in place, both parent and children can really face their feelings and begin the long-term healing process. "The one thing that people need to know and have faith in is that it tends to get better over time," Jessup said.—Anne Blank □

## ORWH Holds Seminar on Reproductive Health

The next ORWH Women's Health Seminar will focus on "Reproductive Health." The program will begin at 2 p.m. on May 2 in Lipsett Amphitheater, Bldg. 10.

Dr. Robert E. Ratner, medical director of Medlantic Clinical Research Center, will open the seminar with a discussion of "Pituitary Causes of Hormone Deficiency in Premenopausal Women." He will review the basic control mechanisms of the pituitary gland and its impact on estrogen production, as well as specific disorders and their treatments.

"Variations in Hormones Throughout the Menstrual Cycle: Implications for Health," will be discussed by Dr. MaryFran R. Sowers, associate professor of epidemiology at the University of Michigan. She will explain how low reproductive hormone levels in apparently normally cycling premenopausal women may impact premenopausal bone mass levels, resulting in a new risk factor for lower peak bone mass as well as potentially for osteoporosis.

The seminar will conclude with a discussion on "Human Infertility: Challenges and Opportunities," by Dr. Donna L. Vogel, associate chief for clinical research in the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. While infertility affects millions of Americans, new technologies can be powerful and may allow conception for some couples previously thought untreatable. Vogel will discuss new reproductive technologies, as well as more conservative forms of treatment.

The next seminar, which will focus on "Women and Smoking: Time To Exhale," will be held on Sept. 24. Admission is free and open to the public. Registration is not necessary. For more information, call 2-1770. □



## New Marker for Diabetes Identified

Scientists at the National Institute of Dental Research have identified a protein that is an important marker for Type 1 (juvenile) diabetes, a disease that affects close to 1 million people in the United States alone. The protein can be used in combination with two other known marker proteins to improve diagnosis of individuals who have diabetes and identify those at risk of developing the disease. This protein and the other marker proteins are also candidates for experimental treatments aimed at preventing the onset of Type 1 diabetes.

The identification of the new marker protein, which was reported in the Mar. 18 issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, is part of an ongoing study at NIDR. Scientists in the Laboratory of Oral Medicine are investigating the molecular biology of diabetes, a disease known to increase the risk of periodontal (gum) disease and tooth loss.

The research, directed by Drs. Abner Notkins and Michael Lan, focuses on Type 1 diabetes, also known as insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, or IDDM. The disease develops most often in children and young adults and can account for a variety of severe complications including blindness, kidney and heart disease, neurologic problems, and premature death.

IDDM is an autoimmune disease in which the immune system produces antibodies that attack the body's own insulin-manufacturing cells in the pancreas. Patients require daily injections of insulin to regulate blood sugar levels.

The destructive antibodies, called autoantibodies, are the basis of the existing diagnostic test for IDDM, which

reacts patient serum with sections of human pancreas tissue, a labor-intensive procedure. Recently, however, scientists have been able to identify some of the target proteins in the pancreas that react with the autoantibodies and are using this knowledge to improve disease detection and streamline the screening process.

An earlier study by Lan and his colleagues identified a marker protein called IA-2 that is present in insulin-producing beta cells of the pancreas and belongs to a family of important regulatory molecules known as tyrosine phosphatases. The new study describes a second protein called IA-2 Beta (IA-2 $\beta$ ) that is a member of the same family. The genes for both of the proteins have been cloned and sequenced, and genetically engineered versions of the proteins have been produced in the laboratory.

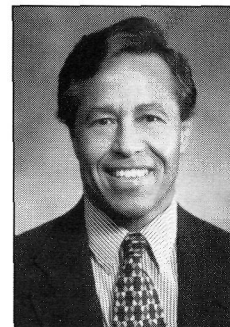
IA-2 and IA-2 $\beta$ , when used in diagnostic tests, recognized autoantibodies in 70 percent of IDDM patients. Combining IA-2 and IA-2 $\beta$  with a third known marker protein increased the level of identification to 90 percent of individuals with IDDM. Furthermore, the presence of autoantibodies to the marker proteins in otherwise normal individuals was highly predictive in identifying those at risk of ultimately developing clinical disease.

"The identification and production of IA-2 and IA-2 $\beta$  make it possible to develop a rapid and effective test that can screen large populations for IDDM," said Notkins.

The scientists hope the demonstration that IA-2 and IA-2 $\beta$  are major targets of the autoimmune attack will help uncover the actual cause of the disease.—Wayne Little □

## Sadker To Speak on Gender, Equity, Science Education

Do schools shortchange girls? A recent report from the American Association of University Women is one of a number of publications that document the discrepancies between the learning experiences of girls and boys in schools. What can NIH do to make science and math available to all students? A lecture by Dr. David Sadker on May 7 from 3 to 4 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, will



Dr. David Sadker

focus on the plight of girls as they navigate through the education system in the United States.

His talk is sponsored by the Office of Science Education and is the third in a series of lectures addressing the integration of science education into the mainstream of thought and action in the NIH scientific community.

Sadker, a professor at American University, has developed training programs that combat sexism and sexual harassment. His programs have been used in some 40 states and foreign countries. He has directed more than a dozen federal equity grants and has written six books and more than 75 articles on the subject. His work has been reported in hundreds of newspapers and was the backbone of the recent report from the American Association of University Women, "How Schools Shortchange Girls."

The lecture is open to all on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information call 2-2469. □

## STEP Forum on Support of Biomedical Science Abroad

The Staff Training in Extramural Programs (STEP) committee is sponsoring a forum entitled "Support of Biomedical Science Abroad" to be given on May 9 from 1 to 4 p.m. in Wilson Hall, Bldg. 1. It will examine how other countries support biomedical research, compared with methods used to fund research in the United States.

A summary of NIH international programs will be provided by Dr. Philip Schambra, director, Fogarty International Center. Dr. Richard Krause, senior scientific advisor, FIC, will serve as

moderator for a panel discussion on factors influencing research funding abroad. The panel will feature scientists from Japan, Africa, Russia and Western Europe. Ample opportunity will be provided for questions and answers.

The forum is open to all NIH'ers on a first-come, first-served basis. No advance registration is necessary. Continuing education credit will be available. If you need sign language interpretation/ reasonable accommodation, call 5-2769 by Apr. 30. Call the same number for any further information. □

## Kaiser Health Plan Day

Kaiser Permanente Health Plan will be on the NIH campus Thursday, Apr. 25 to assist enrollees who have claims or enrollment problems or questions. A Kaiser representative will be available from 10 a.m. to noon in Bldg. 31, Rm. 3C05 and from 1 to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 38, Conf. Rm. B.

No appointment is necessary. Assistance will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. It is anticipated that Kaiser will be at NIH the fourth Thursday of each month. □

## LETTERS FROM NIGERIA (Continued from Page 1)

on this recommendation, I picked a keen interest in your activities and request a business relationship with you."

This new crop of letters seemed to be less discriminating, targeting any NIH employee, not only scientists. In fact, an *NIH Record* writer also received one of the letters. "First, I must solicit your strictest confidence in this transaction," wrote Ahmed Ibrahim in a missive signed and dated July 1995 (but not delivered until early fall). "This is by virtue of its nature as being utterly confidential and 'top secret.' You have been recommended by an associate who assured me in confidence of your ability and reliability to prosecute a transaction of great magnitude involving a pending business transaction requiring maximum confidence." Obviously the letter writer did not know (or did not care) that he was contacting a reporter.

Another letter was sent to Dr. Paul Okano, microbiologist/program director of molecular carcinogenesis in the Chemical and Physical Carcinogenesis Branch of NCI's Division of Cancer Biology. This time the pitch was more audacious and clearly illegal. After a brief introduction, the letter writer stated that, "I carried out an internal audit...only to discover the sum of US\$38,500,000 outstanding...I asked the director general of his opinion over the discovered fund, he confided in me that, having considered the political situation in our country and my position as the chairman of the federal contract review committee, we should use this opportunity to insure our future by remitting the fund into a trusted person's company, bank account outside Nigeria for our own interest. To this effect, I am pleased asking for your mutual assistance at all cost to provide for me a very viable company bank account number where the money will be remitted into...We have agreed to give you 30% for your effort, 60% goes to us, while 10% would be used to off-set local and international expenses incurred during the course of the transaction."

Okano explained the circumstances surrounding the correspondence that came to him.

"A letter addressed to me from Dr. Abel Okon, who said that he was the director of the project and engineering department of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, was received in our office on Jan. 11, 1996. To my knowledge I

have never met this individual and don't know how my name was obtained. It is possible that I was chosen because my last name is similar to the letter writer's. He may have thought I was a fellow Nigerian. I first assumed that the request in the letter was a legitimate one since he did not request any type of payment from me to establish an account for the funds in question. In speaking to a colleague in the office about this letter, I was told about a similar type of scam that had taken place in Taiwan involving executives of businesses there. In that case, however, the people contacted had

*The scams generally involve phony offers of either outright money transfers or lucrative sales or contracts with promises of large commissions or up-front payments.*

to put a large sum of their own money—over \$500,000—into a special account in order to obtain the millions in fees. All who participated lost all their own money."

As in past years with other recipients, it was an unwitting conversation between office associates that clued Okano in to the possibility of a bogus scheme.

"We would have no connection with such groups in Nigeria or elsewhere," he commented. "In reading the letter and assuming that the request was legitimate, it was obvious that the funds in question were fraudulently obtained and they were attempting to move the money out of Nigeria for their own use with my requested help. After I read the letter, I shared it with a program analyst in our office. We decided that we would make a copy of the letter for our files and send the original, with a memo of explanation, through our division administrative officer to the NCI ethics officer. She then forwarded it to the inspector general's office."

Frank Adelman, special agent in the DHHS Inspector General's Office of Investigations, added it to his growing collection. His office, a Bethesda IG substation hosted at NIH in Bldg. 31's basement, is gathering the letters and

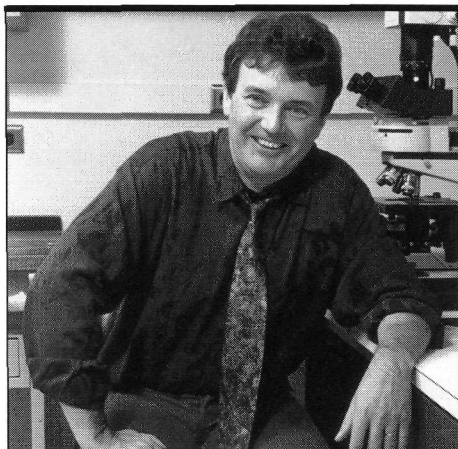
forwarding them to U.S. Postal investigations. "The M.O. has changed several times since 1992," he said. "This is the first time it has been this clear that what they're doing is a scam. Unfortunately, all the post office investigation will do is monitor the extent of the scam. They have no jurisdiction over mail originating from overseas."

Also collecting letters is Dr. Charles Gardner of FIC's Division of International Relations, whose office has had several similar missives forwarded to it over the last 6 months. "Twenty years ago the economy in Nigeria was booming," he said. "These days their economy is struggling along and there are a lot of highly educated, but desperate people."

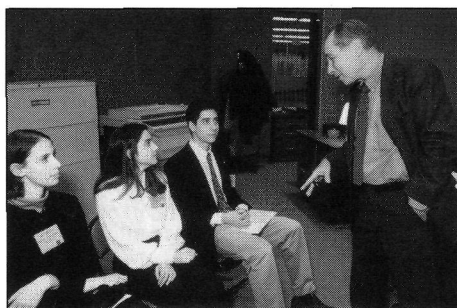
In a memo dated July 20, 1995, Gardner alerted ICD international representatives to the possible scam and informed them that letters he receives would be forwarded to the U.S. Secret Service, which was assembling a database of names and addresses of those responsible.

The U.S. State Department, too, is aware of the problem. In its official travel information on Nigeria, it warns: "A major and continuing problem is the commercial scam or sting that targets foreigners, including many U.S. citizens. Such scams could involve U.S. citizens in illegal activity, resulting in extortion or bodily harm. The scams generally involve phony offers of either outright money transfers or lucrative sales or contracts with promises of large commissions or up-front payments. Alleged deals frequently invoke the authority of one or more ministries or offices of the Nigerian government and may even cite by name the support of a Nigerian government official. The apparent use in some scams of actual government stationery, seals, and offices is grounds for concern that some individual Nigerian officials may be involved in these activities. The ability of U.S. Embassy officers to extricate Americans from unlawful business deals is extremely limited."

Adelman and Gardner agree that the only recourse for NIH'ers and other targeted citizens is an education campaign to make potential recipients aware of the sting operation, and to urge them to forward the letters they receive to the postal service's mail fraud division. Letters should be forwarded to this address: Tyrone Garrison, USPIS-Mail Fraud, P.O. Box 96096, Washington, DC 20066-6096. □



*NIH grantee Dr. Nicholas Strausfeld, a neurobiologist at the University of Arizona, was among the 24 recipients of last year's John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Fellowships—popularly known as "genius awards." Strausfeld, an international authority on the brains of insects, has been funded for more than 7 years by NCRR, and for 5 years by NEI, to study Calliphora (bottle) flies and analyze how they see and maneuver, and how their head movements are related to flight behavior. Such studies may aid understanding of the complex associations between vision, motion detection, and motor responses in humans. Strausfeld says he plans to use his MacArthur fellowship—\$315,000 distributed over 5 years—to continue investigating the evolutionary biology of the arthropod brain, and to travel the world in search of rare insects and related organisms that are at different stages of evolution.*



*Dr. Jack Kalberer, NIH coordinator for disease prevention, gave an orientation to visiting Westinghouse Science Talent Search finalists on their recent visit to NIH. The students (from l), Michelle Schaffer, Elizabeth Pollina and Brian Hafler, presented their projects to a judging panel of prestigious scientists while in Washington, D.C. Hafler, who will be attending Princeton this fall, was one of the top 10 winners. Five former winners or finalists have gone on to win the Nobel Prize.*

## FEW Recruits New Members

Federally Employed Women (FEW) is the only organization that represents all female federal employees. Since its inception in 1968, FEW has provided training to individuals interested in career advancement and helped eliminate discrimination. With more than 10,000 members nationally, FEW employs its own congressional legislative lobbyist who works to protect the rights of all federal employees.

The Bethesda chapter recently reorganized and elected a new board of directors. President Angela Magliozzi (NIAID) and Vice President Shelly Dunham (OD) are eager to continue to make the federal government the best possible work environment.

May will mark the beginning of the Bethesda chapter's annual membership drive and during the month, membership dues will be discounted to \$25/year (a savings of \$5). Look for sign-up tables near the cafeterias in Bldgs. 31, 10 and 45. Included in the annual membership is a bimonthly newsletter published by the national organization. For more information on membership, contact Dee Brieske, 2-4628, or Nancy Reed, 6-3497. The Bethesda chapter meets the second Tuesday of each month from noon to 1 p.m., usually in Bldg. 31-C wing conference area. □

## Pulmonary Function Workshop

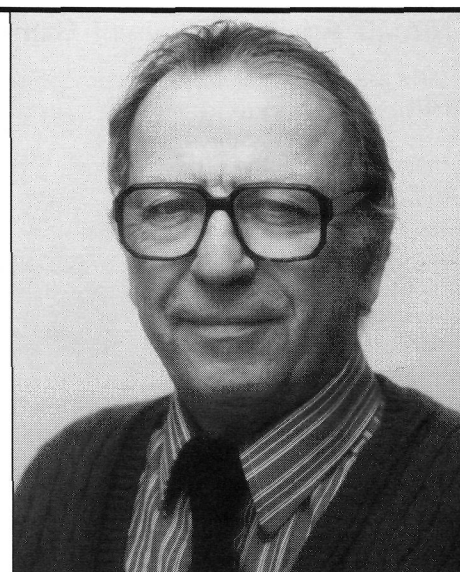
There will be a workshop on pulmonary function testing in NHLBI population-based studies on June 20-21 at the Embassy Row Hotel in Washington, D.C., cochaired by Drs. Teri Manolio and Gail Weinman. To register, contact Wanda Keyes, (301) 468-6555. □

## R&W To Hold Elections

This year, the following offices are up for election: first vice president (oversight of activities); third vice president (outlying buildings); and treasurer. Call Dana Chambers, 6-7728, or Randy Schools, 6-6061, if you are interested in running for office. The deadline for nominations is Apr. 26. □

## Alcohol Study Recruits ACOAs

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism is seeking adult children of alcoholics for an outpatient study. Each participant must be age 18 or older and have at least one biological parent with alcoholism. Eligible volunteers will be paid. For further information call Linda Doty or Irene Culver, 6-1993. □



*Dr. Giovanni Di Chiro, chief of the NINDS Neuroimaging Branch, has been selected to receive the American Society of Neuroradiology (ASNR) Gold Medal. The highest honor of the society, the medal is awarded to leaders who have made extraordinary contributions to the field of neuroradiology. Di Chiro was chosen for the advances he has pioneered over a 40-year research career working with every basic area of neuroimaging including roentgenography, nuclear medicine and, most recently, nuclear magnetic resonance. Many of the techniques introduced by Di Chiro have become standard diagnostic methods used routinely worldwide. The ASNR, founded in 1962, is the oldest, largest and most prestigious neuroimaging society in the world. Di Chiro will receive the medal at ASNR's annual meeting in June in Seattle.*

## Career Opportunities in the Trades There's a Future in it!

**Apply now for the  
Apprenticeship  
Program as a:**

- Utility System  
Repair Operator
- Boiler Plant  
Operator
- Electrician



**Open only to NIH  
personnel with a minimum of 1 year  
permanent status. Call Ron Poole, 2-  
3441, for more information. Applications  
are now being accepted in the ORS  
Personnel Office, Bldg. 31, Rm. 3B03, 6-  
9801. Open Apr. 15-May 13.**



## NIAMS Advisory Council Gains Five Members

NIAMS recently welcomed five new members to its national advisory council. They are Dr. William P. Arend, Dr. Sarah Hitchcock-DeGregori, Jonah Shacknai, Dr. Cynthia L. Marcelo, and Dr. Bjorn R. Olsen.

Arend is professor of microbiology and immunology and head of the division of rheumatology at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center in Denver. He is a highly respected national and international leader in the fields of immunology and rheumatology and is the discoverer of the interleukin-1 receptor antagonist.

Hitchcock-DeGregori is professor in the department of neuroscience and cell biology, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in Piscataway, N.J. She is a leader in applying biochemical and molecular genetic techniques to study



NIAMS director Dr. Stephen I. Katz (third from l) welcomes new members to the advisory council for the institute. They are (from l) Dr. William Arend, Dr. Cynthia L. Marcelo, Jonah Shacknai, Dr. Sarah Hitchcock-DeGregori, and Dr. Bjorn R. Olsen.

proteins involved in the calcium-sensitive control of muscle contraction.

Shacknai is chairman and chief executive officer of Medicis Pharmaceutical Corp., a producer of oral and topical dermatology products, located in Phoenix. He is an expert in government law, health policy, economics, and management.

Marcelo is an associate research scientist in the division of plastic and reconstructive surgery, University of Michigan Medical School. She is a pioneer in the culturing of keratinocytes and the investigation of their biochemical properties and functions.

Olsen is Hersey professor of cell biology and chairman of the cell and developmental biology graduate program at Harvard University. He has been recognized as a leader in the field of collagen research for many years and has been an organizer and chairman of several important workshops on collagen and congenital disorders of collagen. □

## TMJ Sufferers Needed

The NIH Pain Research Clinic is seeking patients with temporomandibular joint disorders (TMJ) for participation in a study. For more information, contact Dr. DeNucci in the NIH Pain Research Clinic, Bldg. 10, Rm. 1N103, 2-2480, fax: 2-4347; email: [denucci@yoda.nid.nih.gov](mailto:denucci@yoda.nid.nih.gov). □

## OD Training Classes

Getting Started with Windows	4/24
Oracle for Application Developers	4/24-25
Learn the Power of PUBnet Using the Macintosh	4/25
Managing and Optimizing Oracle Tables	4/25
Management Client/Server Overview	4/30
SAS Fundamentals II for Programmers	4/29-30
Using Parachute for Network Access	5/1
Central Computing Services at NIH	5/2
QMF Access to Human Resource Data for Personnel	5/2-3
Getting Started with Windows	5/6
Netscape for the PC	5/6
Windows NT and NTS Hands-on Workshop	5/7
Electronic Forms Users Group	5/7
Learn Power of PUBnet Using Windows	5/7
Disaster Recovery	5/7
GCG Sequence Analysis	5/8-10
Approaching the Folding or Construction of Many Protein Sequences	5/8
Mac Configuration for Parachute Network Access	5/8
Developing Data Entry Applications with SAS/FSP	5/9
Finite Element Analysis for Medicine and Biology	5/2, 9
Analyze Workshop	5/13-16
Introduction to PowerBuilder	5/13-17
WIG - World Wide Web Interest Group	5/14
Database Technology Seminar	5/17
Creating and Loading DB2 Tables Workshop	5/20
Introduction to Oracle Forms	5/20-24
Planning and Installing a LAN	5/21
Windows NT Overview	5/21-22
A Look at Windows 95	5/22
Managing and Optimizing DB2 Tables Workshop	5/22

All classes are held on campus and are given without charge. □

## OD EEO Advisory Committee Sets 1996 Agenda

The OD equal employment opportunity advisory committee recently pledged to help improve the quality of work life for OD employees and encourage career advancement and personal growth.

The committee's approach is spelled out in its 1996 work plan approved by NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein at a recent signing ceremony. The 21-member advisory body developed the plan at a recent all-day work session. The members determined several areas that would be their target for the year:

**Human resource issues subcommittee**—The group seeks to address human resource issues such as OD streamlining, awards, and career development to clarify them through establishing an OD EEOAC newsletter to be issued quarterly.

**Employee and career development subcommittee**—Members will seek to provide opportunities to promote career and personal development for OD employees. Their plan will include coordinating seminars and workshops to create opportunity for this development.

**Quality of work life subcommittee**—The group will identify programs that enhance the quality of work life and provide this information to managers and employees. Their plan will include developing seminars and reports to distribute their findings.

Members of the OD EEOAC represent a cross-section of employees in all division, series, and grades and are committed to supporting EEO in the OD.



Members of the OD EEO advisory group met recently with NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein (seated, third from l). They include (seated, from l) Julia Derr, Randy Burke, Hilda Dixon, Carla Garnett and Cheryl Moore. Standing are (from l) Kevin Wilson, Rita Gant, Valerie Pickett, Carol Meyer, Janet Smith, Shirley Villone, Molly Fletcher, Mary Jane Miller and Candace Mason.



*Carolyn McHale, chief of NIAMS's Scientific Information and Data Systems Branch, was recently selected as one of 1996's "Top 100 Women in Computing" by the McGraw-Hill Companies, publishers of Business Week magazine and Women In Computing newsletter. The honor acknowledges her achievements and contributions to information services and technology. McHale was the only woman in the federal government to be awarded this honor. A copy of the Business Week publication that includes the award article can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.wcmh.com/oc/wic/content.html>. Scroll down to Other Articles for Women, then click on 1996 Top 100 Women in Computing.*

## Celebrate Indian Culture

An evening of Indian music, dances, gazals and other traditional songs will be presented in "Basant," a festival of spring sponsored by the Indian cultural coordinating committee. It will be held on Sunday, May 19, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10.

Basant is the lord of Spring in Indian culture. The arrival of the season is marked by festivals and gaiety. The program will celebrate, with music and dance, the phrase "Basant Bahar," or "Joyous Spring."

Admission price is \$5, which benefits the Children's Inn at NIH. For more information, contact Dr. Sudhir Srivastava, 977-0561 or 6-3983. □

## String Quartet Season Closes

The Manchester String Quartet will perform the last concert for the season on Monday, Apr. 29 in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. All are invited. For more information, call Sharon Greenwell, 6-4713. □

## Away from the Office? 'Parachute' into the Network

NIH staff using a computer at home or on travel can now access network and Internet services available at the office such as email, file transfer, shared applications, centralized databases, the World Wide Web, and gopher. A new DCRT service called Parachute allows NIH computer users at remote locations to connect to network services on the NIH-wide area network (NIHnet) and on their local area network. This dial-up service is especially useful for telecommuters, staff who travel, and the industrious folks who take work home. To connect to NIHnet via Parachute, users will need a computer, a modem, and an ordinary phone line. Individual NIH users can access Parachute free of charge. Toll-free 800 access is available for staff who are on travel or who live outside the local calling area.

For security reasons, users must register for the service. To register, or to learn more about Parachute, call 4-DCRT, send email to [4DCRT@nih.gov](mailto:4DCRT@nih.gov), or go to <http://parachute.dcrt.nih.gov/Parachute.html>. □

## GWU Health Plan Day

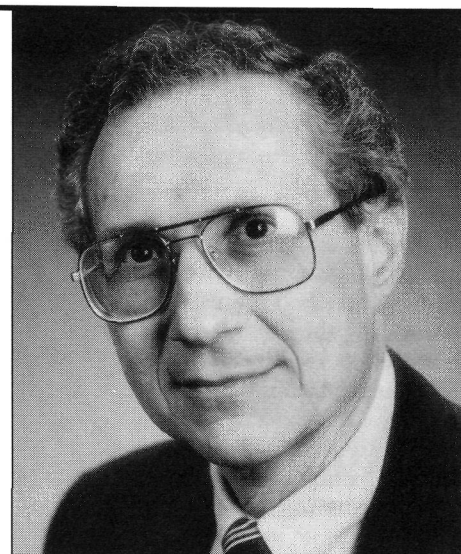
George Washington University Health Plan will be on the NIH campus Thursday, May 2, to assist enrollees who have claims or enrollment problems or questions. A GWU plan representative will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. that day in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 8. No appointment is necessary. Assistance will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. □

## PEF Auction Set, Apr. 30

The annual Patient Emergency Fund Auction will be held Apr. 30 in the Visitor Information Center, Bldg. 10. This fund is very important to NIH patients. Because of the wide variety of people and illnesses treated here, there are many emergency needs that are not covered by research protocols. The PEF meets those needs when they arise.

Your office can help by joining together to donate gift certificates for dinners, weekends, or anything that can be auctioned. You can donate baked goods, or maybe something slightly used for the White Elephant sale.

To donate or for more information call Meredith, 6-6061.



*Dr. Ira Levin, NIDDK's deputy director for intramural research, is the 1996 recipient of the Bomem-Michelson Award for his significant contributions in infrared and Raman spectroscopy. Levin was chosen from an international group of outstanding candidates for his vibrational spectroscopic techniques, which provide a detailed architectural view of cellular membrane. These techniques will be instrumental in improving molecular understanding of the complex organization and chemical dynamics of biological interfaces. The award is sponsored by Bomem of Quebec City to honor scientists who have advanced the techniques of vibrational, molecular, Raman or electronic spectroscopy. Presented recently in New Orleans, the award included a crystal symbol and a \$2,500 honorarium.*



*A television, coffee maker, and art prints are among items bound for the auction block for Apr. 30's Patient Emergency Fund Auction. "Also up for bid will be great weekend escape trips, theater tickets, and special theme baskets loaded with goodies," explains Al Rexroad (r), auction chair. Helping him sort donated items is Sue LaRoche.*

## A New Look for the NIH Library

The NIH Library Branch, part of NCRR, has remodeled its circulation desk and entrance area to provide a more functional layout and appealing appearance for its visitors. This is just the first step toward renovating the library, which has been located in Bldg. 10 for over a quarter of a century. During this time, the library has acquired the latest information technologies in order to provide many new services. These upgrades have taxed the capabilities of this aging facility.

Mayra Sequeira, ORS project officer, has worked closely with library staff and AEPA Architects Engineers, P.C., to develop a design that creates visual appeal, but also maintains an environment conducive to research and study. The renovated circulation desk and entrance are elegant but practical, featuring warm cherry wood tones infused with durable, wear-resistant surfaces. When remodeling resumes later this year, these same features will be used throughout the reading room. The circulation desk is surrounded by a wood and glass enclosure and the entrance walls are lined with fabric-covered acoustical panels that will help reduce sounds resonating from a busy service



*At the new circulation desk in the NIH Library are (from l) Suzanne Grefsheim, chief, Library Branch, NCRR; Palmer Arnold, NIH project general manager, Brown and Root; and Mayra Sequeira, project officer, Division of Engineering Services, ORS.*

area into the adjacent reading room.

Because the library has maintained a normal schedule and has provided routine service throughout the 6-week construction period, the renovation contractor, Brown and Root, has used methods to minimize noise and reduce dust, and also has started work each day several hours before the library normally opens. Also to reduce confusion and noise, the finely crafted circulation counter and cabinets were fabricated off site. The completed unit was delivered in sections and fitted together at the library. □

## Data Warehousing Committee Forms, DCRT Staff To Assist

Every day, NIH manages vast amounts of data containing a wealth of information, but access and use of the information is hardly efficient. The newly formed NIH data warehousing committee, chaired by Janis Mullaney of NIEHS and assisted by staff from DCRT's Information Systems Branch, is changing that by creating the NIH data warehouse, a database that will store business information in an easily accessible way. When the first phase of the project is complete later this year, NIH staff will be able to access the information using querying tools at their desktop computer.

The project's goal is to transform data into useful information, based on the needs of the ICDs. Once those needs are defined, DCRT staff can create the necessary linkages to convert data into usable and accessible information. As its first task, the committee will focus on defining NIH information requirements in the context of existing systems—the administrative database (ADB), the human resources database (HRDB), the information for management, planning, analysis and coordination system (IMPAC II), and the central accounting system (CAS). Data from these systems will then be transformed into easily accessible information and stored in the data warehouse.

With this project, NIH is taking a step forward in using the information generated in its day-to-day business. Easier access to that information means saving time and improving decision making, says Mullaney. "The big technical challenges are how to format the data and ask it smart questions to get relevant answers." □

## Chamber Concert Series Set

The FAES Chamber Music Series will present nine concerts in its 1996-1997 season:

Oct. 6	Trio di Parma, violin, cello & piano
Dec. 8	Ignat Solzhenitsyn, piano
Jan. 19	Radu Lupu, piano
Jan. 26	Marina Piccinini, flute, and Andreas Haefliger, piano
Feb. 9	Vellinger String Quartet
Feb. 16	Helen Donath, soprano
Feb. 23	The Wind Soloists of the Chamber Orchestra of Europe
Mar. 9	Auryn String Quartet
Mar. 23	Andras Schiff, piano

Concerts are held on Sundays at 4 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Tickets are required. For more information, call 6-7975. □

## Check Your Heart Health

In observance of National High Blood Pressure month, the Occupational Medical Service is offering "The Heart Line," a cardiovascular risk assessment program. You have the power to reduce the chances of developing heart disease by lowering your risk factors. Preventive measures range from simple lifestyle changes to medical intervention.

Want to learn more about the role nutrition plays in cardiovascular health? Did you know that you can help your heart by: eating more of certain foods, avoiding high fat and sodium (salt) foods, and using certain cooking methods while avoiding others?

Maureen Leser, a registered dietitian with the Clinical Center nutrition department, will be available to answer questions on the effect of nutrition on cardiovascular health. She will be in the OMS Health Unit (Bldg. 10, Rm. 6C306) on Apr. 30 and May 7 from 8 to 10:30 a.m. Drop in and expand your knowledge about eating right to increase your heart health.

Also, a cardiovascular assessment session will be held in Bldg. 13 on Friday, May 3, not May 2 as it appears in some schedules.



## NIAID Mourns 19-Year Veteran Daggett

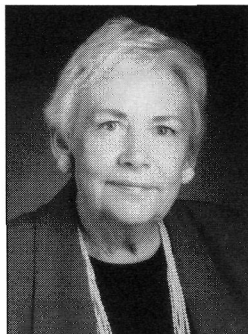
NIAID's Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases mourns the loss of Genevieve "Gen" P. Daggett, 67, who died on Jan. 28 after a brief illness. She had been secretary to the DMID director for almost 10 years.

Dr. John R. La Montagne, DMID director, said, "Gen was a wonderful person and we miss her very much. She was a great master of the secretarial profession. She was careful about detail, meticulous about deadlines and thoughtful about the work of others. Her sudden death was a tragedy for all of us, but we will always

remember with great appreciation and love her many large and small contributions to our work at DMID."

During her NIAID career, Daggett earned numerous cash awards and special act/service-on-the-spot awards for her excellent organizational skills. In 1992, she received the NIH Merit Award in recognition of "sustained exceptional performance" as secretary to the director of DMID.

Daggett came to NIH in 1977 as a secretary in the NIH Division of Legislative Analysis, Office of Program



Planning and Evaluation. When she left in 1981, she was acting secretary to the director of the division. She then joined the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases in the Division of Intramural Research as a secretary. In 1983, she went to work in NIAID's Microbiology and Infectious Diseases Program, DMID's predecessor.

Born in Biddeford, Me., Daggett worked as a secretary at the American Red Cross from 1946 to 1951, when she left that job to marry and raise her family.

Besides the many in NIAID who will deeply miss her, Daggett is survived by a daughter, Judith D. Lun of Germantown; sons, David P. of New Market, Md., and Michael G. of Warrenton, Va.; two grandchildren, Kevin and Christopher Lun; and sisters Annette, Dorothy and Clare; and a brother, Kevin.

Memorial contributions may be sent to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, 6931 Arlington Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814 or the Montgomery County Humane Society, 14645 Rothgeb Dr., Rockville, MD 20850.

## NINDS's Vane Retires After 45 Years of Government Service

After 45 years of government service, 43 with NIH, Raymond Vane, a histopathology technician in the neurophysiological pharmacology section of the NINDS Experimental Therapeutics Branch, has traded in his lab coat for a sailing cap. He officially retired Mar. 1.

Vane began working at NIH in 1951 as a glassware washer in Bldg. 31. "We didn't have automatic glassware washers back in those days," he said. "We were standing on our feet 8 hours a day. And Bldg. 31 was just a temporary building, but it was a fun building and everybody knew everybody else."

Six months after joining NIH, Vane left to join the Marine Corps as a Korean War draftee. He returned to NIH 2 years later, passed the civil service exam and became a histopathology technician for NCI. Vane's many duties included cutting animal tissues into thin slices, preparing them for slides, and staining them for microscopic examination. In 1965, still in his same position, he left NCI and headed for NINDS, where he remained until his retirement.

Throughout his years at NIH, Vane saw many changes on the campus such as the addition of more buildings and employees. In fact, Vane witnessed the development of the campus from many different locations as his work stationed him in various campus buildings including Bldgs. 5, 8, T-6 (previously a temporary building, now Bldg. 31), 36, and finally, 10.

When asked what he will miss most about NIH, he said, "My coworkers. Everyone has been great. The people I've worked with are very nice and I've gotten along with them well." What he will not miss, he said, is the lack of campus parking, the cafeteria food, and performing surgical procedures on the animals—his least favorite aspect of the job.

In retirement Vane plans to paint the inside of his house and spend more time sailing on his 26-foot sailboat.—Shannon E. Garnett □

## Space Management's Paul Wade Retires

Paul Wade recently retired after 33 years of federal service, all at NIH.

He began his career with the Plant Engineering Branch (now the Division of Engineering Services) and progressed to the Supply Operations Branch (now the Division of Material Management), the National Cancer Institute, and the Division of Space and Facility Management.

Over the course of his career, Wade participated in the oversight of numerous milestone projects at NIH, including acquisition of the NIH portion of Ft. Detrick from the Department of the Army; the acquisition of the convent (now the Mary Woodard Lasker Center for Health Research and Education); acquisition of many consolidated lease facilities; elimination of smoking, and the sale of tobacco products, from NIH buildings; and various round-robin construction and relocation projects.

For the past 6 years, Wade was the contractor liaison for the NIH auxiliary

program, overseeing such projects as the Maryland Vending Program for the Blind (operators of concession stands at NIH), Guest Services, Inc. (cafeteria operators), the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, R&W, the Credit Union, Children's Inn, the NIH day care centers and FAES.

During his tenure, Wade received three quality achievement awards and the NIH Director's Merit Award for the elimination of tobacco sales at NIH. □

### 'Say It with Music' in May

The R&W Theatre Group will present "Say It with Music: An Evening with Irving Berlin," on Fridays and Saturdays, May 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 8 p.m. and for Sunday matinees, May 5 and 12 at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Tickets are \$10. Seniors pay \$7, children pay \$5. Group rates are also available. For more information, call (301) 589-0727.

## Problems with Alcohol?

Is alcoholism destroying your family? NIAAA is seeking both actively drinking and recovering alcoholics for various studies. If you are 18 or older, have no significant medical problems, no current drug use (except alcohol), and take no medications, you may qualify for free treatment. For more information call 6-1993. □

## Wednesday Afternoon Series

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series indulges in a special Monday version on Apr. 29, when Dr. Martin C. Raff, professor of biology at University College London, speaks on "The Ins and Outs of Programmed Cell Death." The talk will be held at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. This is the NINDS Kotz Lecture, cohosted by the neurobiology and apoptosis interest groups.

The series then returns to its normal Wednesday slot, at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, in May. On May 1, Dr. Melvin I. Simon, the Anne P. and Benjamin F. Biaggini professor of biological sciences and chair of the division of biology at California Institute of Technology, will speak on "Genetic Approaches to the Analysis of G-Protein Mediated Signal Transduction." He is hosted by the Molecular Biology Interest Group.

On May 8, Dr. Nancy E. Kleckner visits to speak on "Interactions Between and Along Chromosomes During Meiosis." She is professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, department of molecular and cellular biology, Harvard University. Her visit is hosted by the NIH Postdoctoral Fellows.

For more information or reasonable accommodation, call Hilda Madine, 4-5595. □

## Bond Campaign Begins May 8

The annual U.S. Savings Bonds campaign will kick off on Wednesday, May 8 at 11:45 a.m. behind the Clinical Center, outside the B1-level cafeteria. The CC is the host of this year's campaign. Featured at the kickoff will be a free raffle with prizes including four tickets to a Washington Warthogs soccer game and a 20-inch color TV (courtesy of Geico). Music will be provided by the Quince Orchard High School jazz ensemble, the Washington Warthog mascot will be on hand, and there will be free punch and cookies. Buy Savings Bonds—they're good for your security and great for America. □

## Parklawn Classic Set, Apr. 26

The 21st Parklawn Classic race will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Apr. 26. The event includes a 2.5-mile health walk and a 5-mile race. The walk begins on Fishers Lane in the north parking lot of the Parklawn Bldg. and ends on Fishers Lane. The run begins at Rock Creek Park on Viers Mill Rd. Call the Classic hotline, 3-5350, to register. □



*"Today's Decision; Tomorrow's Security"—is the theme of the 1996 U.S. Savings Bonds campaign. Walter Jones (front, l), Clinical Center deputy director for management and operations, is seated with the deputy coordinators of this year's drive. The CC is leading the bond effort at NIH in 1996.*

## Award Nominations Sought

Is there someone in your workplace who has changed the lives of people with physical disabilities? The Betts Award jury is looking for an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to quality of life for people with physical disabilities. The Henry B. Betts Laureate is awarded a \$50,000 unrestricted cash prize by Prince Charitable Trusts. Created in 1989, the award honors both pioneering efforts and dynamic vision typified by Dr. Henry B. Betts, a physiatrist who heads the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. Candidates do not have to be people with disabilities. For nomination material and information, call (312) 335-1592 or email: [snathan@nathanpr.com](mailto:snathan@nathanpr.com). □

## Brain Awareness Week Marked

In celebration of the first Brain Awareness Week, NIH will sponsor a symposium titled "The Science of Brain Disease," on May 14 and 15 at the Lister Hill National Center (Bldg. 38A). Brain Awareness Week is being sponsored by patient and professional organizations of the Dana Alliance. The symposium, featuring presentations by Drs. Stephen Heinemann, Dennis Choi, Dennis Selkoe, George Koob, Allan Basbaum, Paula Tallal, Marcus Raichle, Mortimer Mishkin, Anne Young, and Patricia Goldman-Rakic, will highlight the past accomplishments and future challenges of research on brain disease and will serve as the scientific anchor for the week's activities. Attendance is free and is open to all interested individuals. For registration information call (301) 984-1471. □



*NICHD director Dr. Duane Alexander (second from l) greets Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) as Diane Wax (l), NIH associate director for legislative policy and analysis, Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, NIH deputy director, and Dr. Harold Varmus, NIH director, look on. Kennedy took a 3-hour tour of NIH on Apr. 3. He visited several patients and their parents at the Clinical Center and met with several ICD directors including Alexander, NCI's Dr. Richard Klausner, NIAID's Dr. Anthony Fauci, and Dr. William Paul of the Office of AIDS Research.*